

**AUGUST 1, 2022
REGULAR MEETING**

The only regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Atwater City Council was called to order on Wednesday, August 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers by Mayor Mark Olson. Council members present were Brian Carlson, Shane Hagstrom, Deb Mickle, and Sandy Walsh. Visitors at the meeting were residents Krista Wallin, Caleb and Chad Peterson, Lee Mickle, Ryan and Caitlin Popp, Tony Holtz, Jair Toedter, David Eurele from Westberg Eichens, PLLP and Spencer Johnson from Bolton and Menk.

Representing the city departments were Police Chief Ross Johnson, Fire Chief Chad Busskohl, and Jason Johnson Maintenance Supervisor. The minutes of the regular meeting of July 6th, 2022 were motioned for approval by Deb Mickle second by Brian Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

KRISTA WALLIN – SEWER ON 105 WASHINGTON AVE E

Wallin explained that the sewer needs to be corrected before winter. She requests that whomever the city hires they talk to the people and have them do the private services. She needs time to talk to the bank. Mayor Olson explained that Kuechle was contacted with no response. The Mayor then contacted Voss Plumbing out of Paynesville. Voss is aware of the need to update the private lines.

CALEB PETERSON – EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT – BRIDGE IN CENTENNIAL PARK

Caleb Peterson appeared before the Council who needs to do his Eagle Scout Project. He wants to redo the bridge in Centennial Park. He submitted an estimate from 201 Building for materials of \$4,651.38. He will also need to have a dumpster making the project an estimate of \$5500. Motion was made by Walsh and second by Hagstrom to approve the project up to \$5600. Motion carried with everyone voting in favor. The Scout members will be helping and will be doing over a weekend.

LEE MICKLE – BATHROOMS AT CENT PARK

Lee Mickle addressed his concern with regard to the outdated bathrooms to be ADA compliant. He is working on a bid \$7500 with the plumber doing all of it. We would then be able to get rid of the Mini Biff. He will bring an estimate for the next meeting. This wouldn't happen until 2023.

RYAN AND CAITLIN POPP – FUND RAISER AT THE COMM CENTER

At the end of June their drummer had a motorcycle accident and they want to do a fund raiser to help cover medical expenses. The HandleBar will be doing the alcohol catering. Food will be served and silent auction will be held inside the Community Center, the band will start at 8 pm and go until midnight. Caitlin wants to set up the stage on Second Street North. The date is August 26th on Friday night. Clerk Smith asked for rider to holding a party at the Community Center from their insurance company. Council decided to have the street blocked off on the west side. Motion was made by Carlson to approve the off-premises liquor license for the HandleBar for August 26th and was second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried with everyone voting in favor.

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A second motion was made by Hagstrom to allow Caitlin Popp to have a street dance/fund raiser with insurance rider and security to check for age, and fencing on the west side. The motion was second by Walsh and was approved unanimously.

TONY HOLTZ – SMOKE FEST

Holtz appeared before the council to ask permission to close Idaho for the annual Smoke Fest Rib Cook off to be held August 20th. This is the fifth year of the festival. They will have ribs, pulled pork and a band will be playing. Hagstrom made a motion to give permission to close Idaho Avenue East for the Smoke Fest. Carlson second the motion and the motion passed. He later voiced his concerned about the potholes that were left behind in the apron of Idaho.

DAVID EUERLE FROM WESTBERG EISCHENS, PLLP – 2021 AUDIT REPORT

Euerle skimmed through the 55 page report. He warned the council that fire and ambulance have repeatedly gone over budget in the past three years and need to evaluate their budgets. He reviewed the graph handout. General fund ended the year with strong revenue, because there wasn't much for capital outlay. Water Fund is the same situation. Sewer has a good positive balance to cover debt and operating expenses.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Assistant Chief Brian Carlson asked for the paper towel dispenser to be fixed in the bathroom in the Fire Department bathroom. Engine #4150 had to have water valve was repaired.

POLICE REPORT

Council read the report submitted by the Chief. No one had questions.

SPENCER JOHNSON – BOLTON MENK

Spencer informed the rest of the council that he meet with the Mayor, Jared Voge, another engineer, Mike Henkelman and Jason Johnson. They discussed the sewer lift station on Pacific Ave and the problems that maintenance department has been having. Bolton and Menk will see if a solution can be found after doing more investigation.

Update on North Side project after talking they removed the water main on Minnesota Avenue. In the well update they are going to do a test well after the crops have been harvested and the ground is froze. They will continue with a purchase agreement for Gratz.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Olson and Shane Hagstrom meet with Dale from Kandiyohi County HRA, he doesn't think it is going to happen this fall. Clerk Smith will begin renting the community center for this fall and winter 2022. Walsh questioned if the flooring was going to be replaced in the kitchen. The HRA is way behind within the Willmar area and Atwater is getting postponed. She

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would like to see a professional to choose paint color and flooring samples.

MAINTENANCE/PARKS DEPARTMENT

Jason Johnson discussed the manganese level varies at the well house and at the household faucet.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Hagstrom told the council that they will be planting grass in around the Splash pad.

CITY CLERKS REPORT

Clerk Smith handed out the notice for filing for the 2022 General Election, she sent out 12 second notices and 9 new letters for clean up.

AMDAHL PLAT APPROVAL

Motion to approve the Darren and Jennifer Amdal plat known as Amdahl Addition to the south end of town was made by Deb Mickle and second by Walsh. Motion approved unanimously.

EMERGENCY THC ORDAINCE

Council reviewed the memo sent by Sheriff Eric Holien and the adopted emergency ordinance by Willmar. Council decided they would rather hear from the City Attorney Brad Schmidt before making and stance.

SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE – BUDGET REQUEST

Motion was made by Hagstrom and second by Carlson motion passed for \$250 donation.

REQUEST FOR ALCOHOL IN DOWN TOWN PARK

A request from the Class of 1997 for permission to have alcohol in the downtown park shelter, on August 27th while they are grilling out until 9 pm. They would begin at 4 pm grilling. A motion to approve with a rider for alcohol was made by Hagstrom and second by Carlson. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The following verified accounts were presented for payment, upon approval of the Finance Committee; it was moved by Carlson and second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to make such disbursements: August 2nd, 2022 (Checks numbers 31167 thru 31186 for \$ 12,025.38). Mid-month bills paid on August 17, 2022 and were check

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numbers 31190 through 31220 for \$ 23,275.77.

A motion was made to adjourn by Brian Carlson and second by Walsh 8:38 p.m.

Goldie Smith
City Clerk/Treasurer